

# Aviva Kempner

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Producer, director and scriptwriter, "Gertrude Berg: America's Molly Goldberg," "Samuel Gompers: America's Labor Leader," "Bollymarriage," and "The Rosenwald Schools," works-in-progress, 2004.

Producer, director and scriptwriter, "The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg," a feature-length documentary on Jewish baseball slugger.

Audience Award, Hamptons International Film Festival and Washington Jewish Film Festival; Spirit Award for Best Sports Documentary, International Sports Video and Film Awards; Top honors from the National Society of Film Critics, the National Board of Review, the New York Film Critics Circle and Broadcast Film Critics Association, 2000. "Cinemax Reel Life" presentation. 2001. Winner of CINE Golden Eagle and George Peabody Award.

Screenwriter, producer and director, "Today I Vote for My Joey," a comic short, American Film Institute's Directing Workshop for Women, 2001-2003.

Screenwriter, "Dancing in the Mist," a period dance movie. 2002.

Author of a chapter, "Keeping the Family Name Alive," *Daughters of Absence*, 2000.

Producer, co-writer and researcher, "Partisans of Vilna," a feature-length documentary film on Jewish resistance against the Nazis.

Winner of CINE Golden Eagle recipient, Anthropolos First Prize, P.O.V. airing on PBS, American Film Festival honorable mention. 1986.

Film reviewer and feature writer for *Boston Globe*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Crystal City Magazine*, *The Forward*, *Baltimore Jewish Times*, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, *Legal Times*, *Washington Jewish Week* and *The Washington Post*. 1987-present.

Radio movie reviewer, Movie Maven for Ellen Ratner Show, Talk American Network. 1993-1995.

Director, Washington Jewish Film Festival, sponsored by the District of Columbia Jewish Community Center. 1990-1994.

Consultant, lecturer and programmer for film series: American Film Institute, Corcoran Gallery of Art, District of Columbia Jewish Community Center, Film Society of Lincoln Center, Foreign Service Institute, Jewish Community Centers, Jewish Film Festivals, Jewish Museum, Museum of Jewish Heritage, National Gallery of Art, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, synagogues. 1986-present.

Guest curator, "V for Victory: Jews in Washington Respond to World War II" exhibit, The Lillian and Albert Small Jewish Museum. 1992.

Publicist for special interest film openings. 1992-present.

Executive producer, "Partisans of Vilna: The Songs of World War II Jewish Resistance," Grammy-award nominated record. 1989.

Narration writer for Academy Award nominee, "Promises to Keep," a documentary film on the homeless. 1988.

Script consultant for "Shimon Peres: Road to Peace," a documentary film on the Israeli Prime Minister. 1988-1990.

Programmer and Master of Ceremonies for American Film Institute film series commemorating Kristallnacht. 1988.

Consultant to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council on audio-visual resources for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. 1986.

Production assistant, "Can't Take No More," a dramatic film on the effect of asbestosis on a worker and his family. 1981.

Coordinator and publicist, film openings and screenings. 1979-1981.

Associate in business and immigration law firms, lobbyist and legislative analyst for Native American and human rights organizations. 1976-1980.

## **AWARDS & ORGANIZATIONS**

Board Member, CINE. 2002-present.

Artist Fellowships, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, 2002; Macdowell, 2003 and 2004; and Yaddo, 2003.

Board Member, DC Vote. 2001-present.

Women of Vision Award from the Washington chapter of Women in Film and Video. 2001.

Media Arts Award from the National Foundation for Jewish Culture. 2001.

Mayors Art Award for Excellence in an Artistic Discipline. 2000.

Recipient, Fund for Jewish Documentary Filmmaking, National Foundation for Jewish Culture. 1996.

Fellow, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. 1996.

NEA Mid-Atlantic Region Media Arts Fellowship. 1987, 1992, & 1993.

Individual Artist Grant, D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts. 1988, 1990, 1991 & 1995.

Mayor's Arts Awards, Finalist, Excellence in Service to the Arts. 1992 & 1994.

Moment Community Service Award in Literature and Arts. 1989.

Founder and Chairperson of the Board of Directors of The Ciesla Foundation, Washington, D.C. and New York. 1981-Present.

Board Member, Forum for the Psychoanalytical Study of Film, 1992-2000.

Board Member, Co-Chair of Cultural Arts Committee and Chaim Kempner Library, District of Columbia Jewish Community Center, 1988-2002.

Board Member of Women in Film and Video. 1987-1989.

Board Member, Anti-Defamation League and Friends of Hebrew University.

## **EDUCATION**

Antioch School of Law	J.D.	1976
University of Michigan	Masters in Urban Planning	1971
University of Michigan	B.A. in Psychology	1969